

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 156127
ORIGIN AF-10

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R 201430Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY LISBON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USICA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE
USINT HAVANA
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY BANJUL
AMCONSUL BUKAVU
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY BANGUI
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY KIGALI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION USNATO
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PAGE 02 STATE 156127

AMEMBASSY MASERU
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY VICTORIA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY PRAIA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

UNCLAS STATE 156127

E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS: SOPN

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING, JUNE 19, 1978

FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL, UNCORRECTED EXCERPT FROM THE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING. IF NECESSARY OFFICIAL
VERSION WILL FOLLOW:

MR. CARTER: THERE WILL BE A BACKGROUND BRIEFING HERE
TOMORROW, TUESDAY, AT 9:00 A.M. THE SUBJECT WILL DEAL WITH
THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH IN ATLANTIC CITY ON AFRICAN POLICY.
IT WILL BE GIVEN BY A HIGH STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL.

Q: I SEE THE SECRETARY IS SEEING MR. NKOMO THIS AFTER-
NOON. DOES THE UNITED STATES STILL CONSIDER THE ANGLO-
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 156127

AMERICAN PLAN TO BE A LIVE PROSPECT?

A: YES, WE DO.

Q: DO YOU CONSIDER IT TO BE A LIKELY PROSPECT, A LIKELY
SOLUTION FOR THE PROBLEM?

A: FRANKLY, WE SEE IT AS THE ONLY LIKELY SOLUTION ON THE
HORIZON FOR A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE EFFORT TO BRING
A TRANSITION TO MAJORITY RULE AND INDEPENDENCE IN
RHODESIA.

Q: DID STEVE LOW MAKE ANY PROGRESS IN HIS TALKS WITH THE
SMITH GOVERNMENT IN TERMS OF GETTING HIM TO ACCEPT A
SERIOUS OR A SUBSTANTIAL UNITED NATIONS ROLE IN SUPER-
VISING ELECTIONS?

A: THE LOW-GRAHAM MISSION OBVIOUSLY IS BEING CARRIED ON
IN EL

ETIC WAY WHICH MEANS THAT I DON'T HAVE MUCH
TO SAY PUBLICLY ABOUT IT. IT IS NOT OVER. THEY ARE
CONTINUING THE PROCESS OF TALKING TO AS MANY OF THE

PARTIES AS POSSIBLE, AND OUR INTEREST CONTINUES TO BE IN
HAVING AN ALL-PARTIES CONFERENCE. I DON'T HAVE ANY PROGRESS
REPORT FOR YOU, THOUGH.

Q: HODDING, DO YOU HAVE ANY CONFIRMATION OF REPORTS THAT
THE THOUSAND OR MORE TROOPS ARE MASSING ON THE ANGOLA-
ZAIRE BORDER?

A: ABSOLUTELY NOT. NO, WE DON'T.

Q: DO YOU HAVE A NEW REQUEST FROM MOBUTU FOR ARMS?

A: NO, WE DON'T.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 156127

Q: ARE YOU LOOKING INTO WHETHER THERE ARE TROOPS MASSING
ON THE BORDER? HAVE YOU RAISED THIS WITH ANYBODY?

A: I AM SIMPLY SAYING THAT WE DON'T HAVE ANY REPORT ON
IT. WHAT WE ARE DOING ABOUT THE REPORTS I AM REALLY NOT
PREPARED TO GO INTO; BUT WE DON'T HAVE ANY EVIDENCE OF
IT AT THIS POINT.

Q: THERE IS A REPORT THAT THE HEAD OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN
BOSS -- BUREAU OF STATE SECURITY -- HAS BEEN REFUSED A
VISA TO COME TO THE UNITED STATES. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING
ON THAT?

A: YES. HE NEVER APPLIED FOR ONE.

Q: HE NEVER APPLIED FOR ONE?

A: THAT'S RIGHT.

Q: WAIT, CAN YOU TELL US WHETHER HE WAS DISCOURAGED FROM
APPLYING FOR ONE?

A: I REALLY ONLY CAN DEAL WITH THE BASIC QUESTION OF
WHETHER HE APPLIED AND WAS TURNED DOWN.

Q: WELL, IT'S MORE COMPLICATED THAN THAT. REFUSING A

VISA SOMETIMES NEVER REACHES THE POINT OF FORMAL REFUSAL.
IT REACHES THE POINT OF SOMEBODY ASKING WHAT ARE THE
CHANCES OF GETTING A VISA, AND HE IS TOLD THE CHANCES ARE
NIL, SO HE DOESN'T APPLY FORMALLY.

CAN YOU BE A LITTLE BIT MORE HELPFUL ON THIS WHOLE QUERY?
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 156127

A: NO.

Q: YOU CAN'T TAKE THE QUESTION?

A: OH, I CAN TAKE IT.

Q: WELL, YOU ANSWERED IT LAST YEAR IN CONNECTION WITH THE DALAI LAMA. AND THIS IS A SIMILAR SITUATION

A: I HAD FORGOTTEN THE DALAI LAMA. ALL RIGHT, WE WILL SEE WHAT WE CAN DO. I HAVE TAKEN THE QUESTION.

Q: DO YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW -- IN HIS STATEMENT THE SECRETARY SAYS, "WE WOULD WELCOME SOVIET HELP AND A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT ... RHODESIA, NAMIBIA --" AND HE SAYS, "ELSEWHERE IN AFRICA."

IS THERE ANY OTHER AREA OF AFRICA THAT YOU KNOW OF OFFHAND THAT WE AND THE SOVIETS WOULD LIKE -- WHERE WE WOULD LIKE TO WORK TOGETHER WITH THE RUSSIANS TO GET A SETTLEMENT? ARE YOU WELCOMING THEM TO A SETTLEMENT IN SHABA, FOR INSTANCE? ERITREA?

A: I AM NOT GOING TO TRY TO GO BEHIND THE SECRETARY. I WOULD BE GLAD TO SAY ON BACKGROUND THERE ARE A NUMBER OF PLACES IN WHICH THEY HAVE INFLUENCE WITH CERTAIN STATES WHICH ARE IN CONFLICT, OR POTENTIAL CONFLICT, WITH OTHER STATES. AND OBVIOUSLY WE ENCOURAGE THEM TO USE THEIR INFLUENCE AND GOOD OFFICES FOR RESTRAINT. END BACKGROUND.

Q: BUT HE DOESN'T INTEND TO SINGLE OUT AND SIGNAL ANY SPECIFIC AREA OF CONFLICT WHERE NOW WE WOULD LIKE TO WORK WITH THE RUSSIANS INSTEAD OF OPPOSING THEM?

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 156127

A: I THINK A CONSISTENT STRAIN OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY, FOR AS LONG AS I HAVE BEEN AROUND, HAS BEEN THAT WE HAVE, AT CSCE AT THE UNITED NATIONS AND VARIOUS PRONOUNCEMENTS BY VARIOUS OFFICIALS, SUGGESTED REPEATEDLY THAT IT MIGHT BE A FAR BETTER COURSE FOR US TO WORK TOGETHER FOR THE COMMON INTEREST OF A NUMBER OF OTHER NATIONS -- BOTH IN ECONOMIC AND OTHER TERMS. AND FOR US TO CONTINUE

ADVOCATING THAT IS NOT A SIGNAL. IT'S JUST A REPETITION
OF POLICY.

Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON JOSHUA NKOMO'S DENIAL
THAT HE IS GETTING ANY ADVICE FROM THE CUBANS IN ZAMBIA?

A: NO, I REALLY THINK THAT OUR POSITION ON THIS HAS
BEEN STATED AND THAT I DON'T NEED TO GO BEYOND IT.

Q: IT IS OUR POSITION THAT THERE ARE 75 CUBANS IN ZAMBIA?

A: OH, SOMETHING ALONG THAT LINE, THAT I GAVE.
CHRISTOPHER

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